



February 28, 2023

Representative Frank Hornstein
563 Minnesota Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for HF 1910 (Petersburg) - Corridors of commerce program funding provided, and money appropriated.

Dear Chair Hornstein:

On behalf of the Municipal Legislative Commission (MLC), a coalition of 19 suburban communities, I write in support of HF 1910 that funds the Corridors of Commerce program. Corridors of Commerce was established by the Legislature in 2013 by an initial authorization of \$300 million dollars. Corridors of Commerce funding enables projects that provide capacity in areas with bottlenecks; improve the movement of freight; and reduce barriers to commerce. Currently, the Corridors of Commerce funding has no funding available to move numerous vital projects forward in areas of great need.

In the past, Corridors of Commerce funding has supported many notable projects in MLC Communities such as:

- I-494/I-35W Interchange and I-494 MnPass Lanes (Bloomington)
- Highway 169 – Nine Mile Creek Bridge (Edina)
- I-35W – Minnesota River Crossing (Burnsville)
- I-694 – An additional lane between Rice Street and Lexington Avenue (Shoreview)
- Hwy 13 and Dakota Avenue Freight Access and Mobility (Savage)

Without additional funding being approved, the momentum of projects vital to our region will be curtailed, and necessary improvements to our states infrastructure will jeopardize the continued growth of communities and the economic prosperity they depend on.

We would like to thank Representative Petersburg for his leadership in addressing this issue. The MLC looks forward to working with the bill author and supporting this legislation as it moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hovland", written over a horizontal line.

James Hovland
Chair, MLC
Mayor, City of Edina